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such traces whatever and likely had none in life. A mark in *ruber* which is conspicuous in our 5 alcoholic individuals from 96 to 217 mm. in length is a bold black stripe on the lower lobe of the caudal fin, likely a recognition mark.

Data on depth in bartholomaei (from North Carolina; Florida; Havana market, Cuba) follows to give an idea of the change with age. Lengths are to base of caudal. Fourteen specimens 35 (38) to 70 mm. long have depth 2.1 to 2.3 (average 2.22); 21 specimens 70 (71) to 140 (138) mm., 2. 3 to 2.4 (average 2.33). The material shows a distinct loss of depth between 35 and 70 mm., none between 70 and 140 mm. It is not yet necessary to consider the 211 mm. specimen a different fish or even an abnormal individual, though we can only explain it otherwise by a second period of loss of depth. The first period is probably coincident with a change of habits, such a second period may be coincident with another habit change, after which the species is less accessible to, and rare in collections. Data on other large specimens of bartholomaei would be of interest, chance of confusion with ruber to be avoided by counting gill-rakers. The 5 ruber (96 to 217 mm. from Porto Rico, Havana, Turks Id.) have depth (in length to base caudal) 2.8 to 3.2 (average 3.06), the two smallest (96 and 108) average 2.90, the three largest (191 to 217), 3.17.

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ON CARANX CRYSOS, ETC.

The fishes recognized as Caranx pisquetus (West Indies to Brazil) and Caranx caballus (San Diego, Calif. to Panama) appear to be indistinguishable from Caranx crysos (New York to Florida). The fewer scutes credited to caballus is a matter of individual variation. The most anterior scutes near the angle of the lateral line are small and poorly

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developed and the most posterior ones minute, so the personal equation enters into their count somewhat. Aside from this there is sufficient variation to bridge the difference, 42 to 51 counted in 8 specimens of *crysos* from North Carolina and Florida, in the American Museum of Natural History.

The longer pectoral credited to caballus and pisquetus is an age character. As is common in carangin species the pectoral increases irregularly with age and becomes more falcate. Caranx crysos over 125 mm. in length to base of caudal are sufficiently like the adult to be recognized for what they are at a glance. One of 129 mm., Havana Market, has pectoral 3.6 in length, .97 in head; 5 of 150 to 165 mm. from North Carolina and Florida, 3.0 to 3.2 (average 3.12) in length, .86 to .94 (average .91) in head; 3 of 215 to 235 mm. from North Carolina, 3.0 to 3.2 (average 3.07) in length, .84 to .86 (average .85) in head; one of 311 mm. from Brazil, 2.7 in length, .76 in head; one of 430 mm. from Cape San Lucas, 3.1 in length, .84 in head.

Caranx crysos (Mitchill), New York, was based on small specimens; large ones appear to be rare to the north.

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A BLACK PITUOPHIS

My friend, Dr. H. P. Loeding of Mobile, Ala., recently sent me for examination a large Pituophis, remarkable for being uniformly black above and below, except for a little rusty color on the anterior part of the head and flecks of rusty on the ends of some of the ventral scales.

This is apparently the first example of its genus to be reported from Alabama, and, so far as I know, there are no records for Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana. This specimen was found dead on the